

REMARKS

The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough consideration provided the present application. Claims 1-8 are now present in the application. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended. New claims 7 and 8 have been added to further protect the invention. Reconsideration of this application, and the claims as amended, respectfully are requested.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner has rejected claim 2 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite because of an apparent inconsistency between the claim language and the specification. Claim 2 has been amended to clarify that the pulse wave pin is connected to a pulse wave end of the connecting unit for receiving simulating system clocks sent from the automation controller, and that a data pin is connected to a data end of the connecting unit for receiving and/or transmitting the specific data from and/or to the automation controller. This is supported in the specification at page 4. The rejection therefore no longer is applicable and accordingly should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sakamaki et al.* The rejection respectfully is traversed.

The cited prior art is directed to an NC controlling system that may administer inputting, compiling and storing of a control program of a NC machine tool and a control program of an appended equipment together as one program in a NC controlling apparatus. To the contrary, the present application is directed to a convenient auxiliary memory device, which uses an external auxiliary memory device to facilitate the applications.

As is disclosed in the present application, an automation controller is connected to the auxiliary memory device via a connecting interface. A logic processing unit and an internal memory unit are included in the automation controller. Once both of them are connected, internal data in the auxiliary memory device can be sent to the internal memory unit of the automation controller according to a user's request. This allows the user to update the internal instructions of the automation controller. Moreover, the internal data of the controller also may be backed up to the memory device. This has the advantage of expanding the controller.

Therefore, the technical feature of the cited prior art and that of the auxiliary memory device of the invention are quite different from each other. The advantages to be obtained from the invention cannot be obtained from the cited prior art.

Further, in the cited prior art, the NC controlling system 1 has an NC machine tool 2 provided with a control program and appended equipment used together with the machine tool to be numerically controlled. A control program of the appended equipment is written in an annotation part of the control program of the NC machine tool 2 in the NC control unit 1. A reading unit 4 is provided for identifying and reading the control program of the appended equipment written in the annotation part of the control program of the NC machine tool. Such a structure, including the outside input/output unit 6 and the NC control unit 1, neither shows or suggests a structure according to claim 1. That is, combining the switching unit and the load unit with the outside input/output unit 6 and the NC control unit 1 to obtain the structure defined by claim 1 is impossible. Therefore, amended claim 1 and claims 2-5 depending therefrom are deemed clearly patentable over *Sakamaki et al.* and the rejection accordingly should be withdrawn.

The Examiner also rejected claim 6 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sakamaki et al.* in view of *Aguilar et al.* The rejection respectfully is traversed.

Aguilar et al. fails to disclose or even to suggest the features of the invention missing from *Sakamaki et al.* as discussed above with regard to claim 1, and claim 6 depends from claim 1. Therefore, claim 6 is deemed clearly to be patentable for at least the reasons advanced above as to the patentability of claim 1, and the rejection accordingly should be withdrawn.

New claim 7 further defines the invention with regarding to its functions and new claim 8 defines the auxiliary memory device in combination with the automation controller that it supplements. These claims are patentable for at least the reasons advanced above as to the patentability of claim 2. Thus, favorable consideration and allowance of claims 1-8 are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such a conference.

Based on the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and such a Notice, with allowed claims 1-8, earnestly is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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